

## Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SAM-01 SS-20 RSC-01

L-03 MC-02 ACDA-19 SAJ-01 DODE-00 EB-11 COME-00

TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DRC-01 EURE-00

/116 W

----- 069900

P R 051835Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9820

INFO AMEMBASSY THEHAGUE

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USDELMC

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCUSAFE

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 0745

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, BEXP, BE

SUBJECT: REPLACEMENT AIRCRAFT FOR F-104

REF: STATE 23571

1. I APPRECIATE FULLY THE IMPORTANCE OF A U.S. PLANE BEING CHOSEN AS REPLACEMENT FOR THE F-104. I AM GRATIFIED THAT HIGH LEVEL ATTENTION IS BEING GIVEN TO THIS MATTER AND THAT SOON DECISIONS NECESSARY FOR FURTHER ACTION WILL BE MADE.

2. CURRENT BELGIAN POLITICAL SITUATION MAY PERHAPS PROVIDE  
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US WITH SOME ADDITIONAL MANEUVERING TIME.

BELGIAN ELECTIONS ARE NOW SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 10  
AND BELGIAN CHOICE OF A F-104 REPLACEMENT  
WILL PROBABLY WAIT UPON FORMATION OF NEW GOVERNMENT.

3. ON SPECIFIC QUESTION IN PARA 2 REFTTEL, WE SEE NO  
RPT NO INDICATION THAT GOB INTERESTED IN DEFERRING ITS  
DECISION UNTIL USG EVALUATES YF-16 AND FY-17 PROGRAMS  
WHICH NOW SCHEDULED FOR JULY 1975. REPRESENTATIVES OF  
AMERICAN MANUFACTURERS CONFIRM THIS READING OF BELGIAN VIEWS.  
NEVERTHELESS, GOB (AND PRESUMABLY OTHER POTENTIAL  
NATO PURCHASERS) DEEPLY INTERESTED IN EXTENT USG COMMITS  
ITSELF TO ONE OR OTHER OF THE CANDIDATES. AS WE  
HAVE POINTED OUT BEFORE,  
LACK OF USG INVOLVEMENT TO DATE IS MAJOR  
WEAK ELEMENT IN U.S. COMPANY OFFERS. STRAUSSZ-HUPE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY EQUIPMENT, AIRCRAFT SALES, POLITICAL SITUATION, GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 FEB 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974BRUSSE00745  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** BRUSSELS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740256/aaaacagb.tel  
**Line Count:** 76  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** STATE 23571  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 27 MAR 2002  
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30 JUN 2005

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**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REPLACEMENT AIRCRAFT FOR F-104  
**TAGS:** MASS, BEXP, BE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005